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Message Text

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20
ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-02 CU-01 EB-03 AID-10 PRS-01 RSR-01

TRSE-00 COME-00 /060 W
---------- 017430
O R 241125 Z APR 73 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2952

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 2998

LIMDIS

FOR AMBASSADOR NEUMANN FROM CHARGE

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, PINS, PFOR, PINT, AF
SUBJECT: DEPSEC VISIT: UPDATE ON SITUATION FOR YOUR ORAL BRIEFING

1. HELMAND TREATY: LOWER HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE APPROVED TREATY AND PROTOCOLS IN FULL APRIL 21. BEFORE FINAL VOTE, HOWEVER, FOUR DEPUTIES RESIGNED FROM COMMITTEE RATHER THAN BE ASSOCIATED WITH VICTORY PRO- TREATY FORCES. CURRENT RGA LOBBYING EFFORT ATTEMPTING CONVINCE DEPUTIES PROCEED ASAP TO FINAL VOTE IN PLENARY SESSION RATHER THAN LET OTHER COMMITTEES (AGRICULTURE, LEGAL) HAVE CRACK AT TREATY. DESPITE PROBABILITY ULTIMATE VICTORY FOR TREATY, DOUBTFUL DEPUTIES WILL CONCEDE ON THIS PROCEDURAL POINT. RELIABLE SOURCE SAYS PM VERY UP- TIGHT AND SOMEWHAT BITTER OVER PARLIAMENTARY DIFFICULTIES ON TREATY.

2. DEMONSTRATIONS: SMALL BUT REGULAR DEMONSTRATIONS BY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN PROGRESS SINCE APRIL 19 TRIGGERED BY ANNOUNCE- MENT THAT 2,200 GRADUATES ADMITTED TO KABUL UNIVERSITY (ROUGHLY 1600 FROM PROVINCES; 600 FROM KABUL). OVER 7500 TOOK ENTRANCE EXAM AND SEEMS LIKELY DEMONSTRATIONS, USUALLY CALLING FOR JOBS OR KU PLACEMENT, WILL CONTINUE AND GROW. DEMONSTRATIONS SO
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FAR NON- VIOLENT AND CLOSELY CONTROLLED. NO APPARENT CONNECTION TO IMPENDING VISIT.

3. ELECTIONS: ROYAL DECREE ISSUED APRIL 21 SET SEPTEMBER 10 AS FIRST DAY NATIONAL ELECTIONS FOR LOWER HOUSE. ELECTIONS FOR SENATE STAGGERED BEGINNING AUGUST 26 IN MOST OF COUNTRY AND ON SEPTEMBER 3 IN KABUL, KANDAHAR AND HERAT.

4. RELIGIOUS PROBLEMS: NO CHANGE SINCE YOUR DEPARTURE. IMPORTANT THAT ISSUE BE MENTIONED TO BOTH HM AND PM.

5. DEBT RESCHEDULING AND/ OR COMMODITY ASSISTANCE: WE BELIEVE JALALLAR CERTAIN RAISE AT LUNCHEON DEBT AND COMMODITY SUPPORT QUESTIONS, AS PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED WITH YOU. OUR POSITION WITH REGARD TO DEBT REMAINS AS YOU INDICATED, AND AS REITERATED IN WASHINGTON' S CABLE WHICH WAS MARKED FOR YOU AND AL WHITE IN TEHRAN (STATE 075697). IT LIKELY PM WILL ALSO RAISE QUESTION DURING MEETING, SINCE VON POST HAS REITERATED TO US HIS UNDER-STANDING PM' S CONCERN OVER POLITICAL IMPACT FAILURE IMF MEMBERS GO FORWARD WITH DEBT RESCHEDULING. (NOTE: JALALLAR PLANS MAKE SUBSTANTIVE PRESENTATION ON ECONOMIC PROBLEMS TO DEPSEC AT LUNCHEON.)

6. NARCOTICS: RGA HAS ACCEPTED DAVIES AS UN COORDINATOR. BURKE REPORTS THAT MANBY DEPARTED LESS SANGUINE ABOUT LONG- RANGE PROSPECTS FOR STRENGTHENING POLICE, AND SOMEWHAT LESS OPPOSED TO OUR PROPOSED JUSTICE PROGRAM. TIMETABLE YOU WERE GIVEN BY SCHURMANN IN GENEVA SEEMS CONSISTENT WITH OUR IMPRESSIONS FROM RGA. WE EXPECT SHAFIQ MAY PRESS DEPSEC AS TO SIZE ANTICIPATED US CONTRIBUTION TO UN PROGRAM.

7. SECURITY: FULLEST (ALMOST EXCESSIVE) COOPERATION FROM RGA ON SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS. NO RPT NO INDICATION ANY CONCRETE THREAT HAS
COME TO LIGHT SINCE YOUR DEPARTURE.

8. WEATHER FORECAST: FAIRLY CLEAR IN MORNING, INCREASING CLOUDINESS IN AFTERNOON, LIKELY SOME THUNDERSHOWERS AROUND DEPARTURE TIME WHICH NOT RPT NOT HOWEVER EXPECTED TO DELAY TAKE- OFF, BUT MAY REQUIRE DEPSEC TALK TO MISSION STAFF TO BE HELD INSIDE RESIDENCE RATHER THAN IN GARDEN.
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